

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A watercraft comprising an internal combustion engine, the internal combustion engine comprising an engine body, a movable member relative to the engine body and a lubrication system, the lubrication system comprising a lubricant used to lubricate at least the movable member, a control system comprising a lubricant service monitoring system, the lubricant service monitoring system comprising a timer, at least one memory allocation, and an alarm, the timer recording an engine operating time value, the memory allocation holding the engine operating time value, an alarm unit responsive to output a perceptible alarm when predetermined engine operating time value limits have been reached.
2. The watercraft of Claim 1, wherein the alarm unit can output the perceptible alarm at a predetermined alarm frequency.
3. The watercraft of Claim 2, wherein the alarm frequency can increase at a rate proportionate to the predetermined engine operating time value limits.
4. The watercraft of Claim 3, wherein the perceptible alarm is audible.
5. The watercraft of Claim 3, wherein the perceptible alarm is visual.
6. The watercraft of Claim 5, wherein the visual perceptible alarm comprises at least one light.
7. The watercraft of Claim 5, wherein the visual perceptible alarm is at least one colored light.
8. The watercraft of Claim 4, wherein the perceptible alarm is also visual.
9. The watercraft of Claim 8, wherein the visual perceptible alarm comprises at least one light.
10. The watercraft of Claim 8, wherein the visual perceptible alarm is at least one colored light.
11. The watercraft of Claim 1, wherein the engine operating time value allocated in the memory can be reset.
12. The watercraft of Claim 1, wherein the perceptible alarm can be reset.
13. The watercraft of Claim 1, wherein the memory allocation can comprise a RAM and an EEPROM.
14. The watercraft of Claim 13, wherein the RAM is updated with the engine operating time at a predetermined frequency.

15. The watercraft of Claim 13, wherein the EEPROM is updated with the engine operating time from the RAM at a predetermined frequency.

16. A method for determining when a lubricant no longer possesses proper lubricant properties, the lubricant lubricating at least one movable member within an internal engine, the internal engine being controlled by a control unit, the control unit comprising a lubricant service monitoring system, at least one memory allocation and a perceptible alarm, the method comprising the lubricant service monitoring system recording an engine operating time value into the memory allocation and activating the perceptible alarm when the allocated engine operating time value exceeds a predetermined value.

17. The method of Claim 16, wherein the alarm unit can activate the perceptible alarm at a predetermined alarm frequency.

18. The method of Claim 17, wherein the alarm frequency can increase at a rate proportionate to the predetermined engine operating time value limits.

19. The method of Claim 18, wherein the perceptible alarm is audible.

20. The method of Claim 18, wherein the perceptible alarm is visual.

21. The method of Claim 20, wherein the visual perceptible alarm comprises at least one light.

22. The method of Claim 20, wherein the visual perceptible alarm is at least one colored light.

23. The method of Claim 19, wherein the perceptible alarm is also visual.

24. The method of Claim 23, wherein the visual perceptible alarm comprises at least one light.

25. The method of Claim 23, wherein the visual perceptible alarm is at least one colored light.

26. The method of Claim 16, wherein the engine operating time value allocated in the memory can be reset.

27. The method of Claim 16, wherein the perceptible alarm can be reset.

28. The method of Claim 16, wherein the memory allocation can comprise a RAM and an EEPROM.

29. The method of Claim 28, wherein the RAM is updated with the engine operating time at a predetermined frequency.

30. The method of Claim 29, wherein the EEPROM is updated with the engine operating time from the RAM at a predetermined frequency.

31. A machine comprising an internal combustion engine, the internal combustion engine comprising an engine body, a movable member relative to the engine body and a lubrication system, the lubrication system comprising a lubricant used to lubricate at least the movable member, a control system comprising a lubricant service monitoring system, the lubricant service monitoring system comprising a timer, at least one memory allocation, and an alarm, the timer recording an engine operating time value, the memory allocation holding the engine operating time value, an alarm unit responsive to output a perceptible alarm when a predetermined engine operating time value limit has been reached.

32. The machine of Claim 31, wherein the alarm unit can output the perceptible alarm at a predetermined alarm frequency.

33. The machine of Claim 32, wherein the alarm frequency can increase at a rate proportionate to the predetermined engine operating time value limits.

34. The machine of Claim 33, wherein the perceptible alarm is audible.

35. The machine of Claim 33, wherein the perceptible alarm is visual.

36. The machine of Claim 35, wherein the visual perceptible alarm comprises at least one light.

37. The machine of Claim 35, wherein the visual perceptible alarm is at least one colored light.

38. The machine of Claim 34, wherein the perceptible alarm is also visual.

39. The machine of Claim 38, wherein the visual perceptible alarm comprises at least one light.

40. The machine of Claim 38, wherein the visual perceptible alarm is at least one colored light.

41. The machine of Claim 31, wherein the engine operating time value allocated in the memory can be reset.

42. The machine of Claim 31, wherein the perceptible alarm can be reset.

43. The machine of Claim 31, wherein the memory allocation can comprise a RAM and an EEPROM.

44. The machine of Claim 43, wherein the RAM is updated with the engine operating time at a predetermined frequency.

45. The machine of Claim 44, wherein the EEPROM is updated with the engine operating time from the RAM at a predetermined frequency.